

one can hurry forward so as to get a moment in advance of the rest. Why should it not be so? Why should not sluggishness of hand and laziness of mind drop back far behind in time—as they would be left in space? Why should not genius and energy get on faster and arrive sooner? But no! We are all immersed in the same now. The same moment arrives at once to all the millions of beings of this earth. If we could go back when we choose and live the past over again, I believe that many crooked paths would be straightened and our time would be spent for the Lord in a more systematic way than it has been spent. If God were to say to us that we might be as we were a year ago, or years ago, we would gladly accept that we might have a chance to amend and live more noble lives, and show to our loved ones that are gone before, the love we felt in our hearts, that we had so greatly neglected to show to them, while living. If in the light of those results of that experience, which is the divine judgment here on all human actions, we would begin our lives anew. Alas! the past is gone, and gone forever, and all we can do now is to try to improve the future and make the best of it by using the means that God has given us, for the good deeds are sealed up and can never be recalled, and also all our bad actions are for ever sealed and can not be undone, though we seek to repent of it diligently and in tears. No awful fate, no tremendous doom, no iron necessity can compare with this relentless grasp of time which seizes and retains, inexorable, unforgiving, all that passes into its irresistible embrace so that time, of all things the most airy, and impalpable, before it comes, seems to be of all things the most solid and substantial when it has gone by.

Yet, on the other hand, this same element of time is a very flexible and elastic material. How it stretches out to some persons! How much more a day or an hour is to one person than to another, and how much good some do while they live on the earth. You may ask why this is. It is simply because they take time by the forelock and make the best of it—because they never lose a moment in which they can render some good to themselves or their fellowmen. Yes, how much more to each of us are our few fiery inspirations and insight than the months in which we hammer mechanically this experience into opinion on the anvils of logic. How much more we live in the deep momentary experiences of faith, love and generosity than in the dreary years which follow them! We see then what is meant by redeeming time. It is to fill

the hours full of the richest freight; to fill them with the life of thought, feeling, action, as they pass by. It is to live so as to be glad, not sad, when we look back. It is to conquer in the great struggle with the devil, with incarnate evil, and to have the sentence pronounced by the Rhadamanthine voice of the past. Well done! This is the safety vault into which we can put our treasures, sure that no thieves can break through and steal. One moment of self conquest, one good act really done, one generous deed actually performed, yes, one effort to do right, has the seal of time put upon it that the powers of hell can not break.

Here in our little church at Marion, we have a struggle to keep the powers of Satan down and we dare not lose any time, dare not give the devil any sway at all, else he will overthrow the good that has been done here through Brother Rittgers and others. We lose time by not having services every Sabbath. We ought to have preaching once at least on each Sabbath Day, for time lost by not having preaching every Sabbath Day is to us lost forever. We have our prayer meetings and Sabbath-school, but this is not enough. We have our elder with us twice a month and if we had some one to fill the balance of the time we would do a great work here, but we shall have to work the harder to get our church in a good, healthy condition. We hold out an invitation to any minister coming this way to stop off and preach for us.

Marion, Ind.

#### THE "BOY KILLER."

This is a startling name which a prominent New York physician gives to the cigarette. He describes the vile thing as made of tobacco soaked in nicotine, which has in it several other deadly poisons. Even the paper in which it is wrapped is whitened with arsenic. He declares that the list of deaths found daily in our papers, caused by "heart failure," ought most of them to read "caused by cigarette smoking." And he adds that it is the duty of every physician to explain to parents how dangerous is this habit, especially for growing boys. Yet in spite of this and many other like warnings, one cannot walk the streets of any town or village without having cigarette smoke puffed in one's face, from the lips of mere boys.—*The Pansey*.

□ Those prayers that awaken God must awaken us; those prayers that stir God must stir us "to take hold on God" as Isaiah speaks.

Did you give thanks?

## Items of Interest.

—It has been stated that Seattle, Wash., has decided to spend \$7,000,000 for a ship canal four miles long to connect the harbor to a lake back of the city.

—Since the orders of the "Nickel-Plate" shops went into effect, forbidding employees to visit saloons, five saloons near the said factory have closed.

—There is a society of young women in Danbury, Ct., whose members are pledged not to marry any man who uses liquor. They have a membership of 400.

—The Sunday Observance League of Chicago has taken steps to compel Mayor Swift, of that city, to enforce the State law prohibiting the sale of liquor on Sunday.

—The Superintendent of Education of South Carolina reports that 4,594 teachers in the public schools of the State receive an average salary of \$23 a month for the males, and \$20 a month for the females.

—Mission work commenced in New Mexico in 1866. At present there are 25 schools, more than 40 ministers and native helpers, and over 800 communicants. There are about 40 missionary teachers in this field.

—It is said the number of women missionaries in the foreign field exceeds the men by one thousand. It is estimated that there are not less than 2,500 unmarried women missionaries at the present time working in foreign countries.

—Infant marriage shows no signs of dying out in India. There are at present in lower Bengal alone 30,332 married girls and 6,780 married boys under four years of age, besides some 7,000 widows, while nearly 4,000,000 girl wives are under nine years of age.

—The freight traffic from Chicago eastward, has greatly increased during the month of October. During the last month the aggregate shipments of Chicago to the east amounted to nearly 420,000 tons, this is an increase over last year of over 182,000 tons. This is all the more remarkable when we take in consideration that the best showing of any previous month of the year in freight was in July last, an increase of about 83,000 tons reported for that month.

Who does not know the value of a plentiful supply of pure water to a community? Infinitely of more value are the Sacred Scriptures, for they are the fountain at which the soul drinks, and is refreshed and strengthened for its career of usefulness.—*Ex*.